

ABSTRACT:

The invention pertains to a method of obtaining a pair of substrates spaced from each other by spacers comprising:

a) providing a first substrate overlaid with a first layer with a patterned hydrophobic second layer or a patterned hydrophilic second layer that can take on an electrostatic charge; and

b) optionally treating the parts of the first layer that are not covered with the hydrophobic or hydrophilic second layer to form a patterned hydrophilic third layer that can take on an electrostatic charge with a sign that is opposite to the sign of the electrostatic charge that can be taken on by the hydrophilic second layer, if the second layer is a hydrophilic layer;

c) providing at least one of the first, second, and third layer with an electrostatic charge;

d) contacting the electrostatically charged patterned first substrate with a dispersion of polymeric particles (spacers), which are functionalized so that the polymeric particles at their surface can take on an electrostatic charge with a sign opposite to the sign of the electrostatic charge of the at least one of the first, second, and third layer, to electrostatically bond the polymeric particles to the layer provided with an electrostatic charge having a sign that is opposite to the sign of the electrostatic charge of the polymeric particles;

e) optionally removing the functionalized polymeric particles from parts to which the functionalized polymeric particles are not electrostatically bonded, and/or the hydrophobic or hydrophilic second layer, if the polymeric particles are not electrostatically bonded thereto; and

f) thereafter connecting the first substrate to a second substrate to give the pair of substrates.

Fig. 1